Statement-II

Distric-wise No. of Electronic Exchanges in Rural Areas

S. No.	Name of District (SSA)	No. of Electronic exchanges in rural area
1.	Ahmedabad (Incl. Gandhinagar)	30
2.	Baroda	34
3.	Rajkot	46
4.	Surat	26
5.	Bhavnagar	38
6.	Bhuj	23
7.	Bulsar (Including Dangs)	23
8.	Jamnagar	20
9.	Junagadh	26
10.	Amreli	22
11	Mehsana	58
12.	Nadiad	62
13.	Himatnagar (Sabarkantha)	58
14.	Palanpur (Sabarkantha)	52
15.	Surendranagar	23
16.	Bharuch	33
17.	Godhra	25

Contract Awarded to a French Firm for Supply of OCB Based Exchange

3402. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a contract has been awarded to ALCATEL of France for supply of 40,000 lines of OCB based exchange through its prototype exchange is yet to pass the validation test, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no less than six companies were active bidders to DOTs 1991 tender enquiry for supply of 200,000 lines of exchanges, but Government favoured Alcatel, if so, what are the reasons therefor; >and

(c) whether it is a fact that DOT issued Letters of Intent to three bidders in mid-1992 for a total supply of 3 lakh lines of exchanges at a rock bottom price of Rs. 5034 a line, though none of them had passed validation tests at this time and violating tendering stipulation, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) No, Sir.

Applications pending for Telephone Connections in the Country

3403. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of applications pending for telephone connections in the country at present and also during the last three year, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have drawn a package to clear the backlog; and

(c) if so, by when the backlog is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Number of applications pending for telephone connections in the country is as given below •—

Year	Waiting List
1992-93	2969850 (upto Jan '93)
1991-92	2289769
1990-91	1960567
1989-90	1713456